

Message Text

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14

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NSF-04 AGR-20 INT-08 DOTE-00

AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11

EPA-04 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSC-10 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01

SS-20 SPC-03 HEW-08 PA-04 PRS-01 CU-04 DRC-01 /189 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

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INFO USIA WASHDC

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PASS NSF

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN SP

SUBJECT: NMA: S/T

AT A MEETING HELD NOV 19 BETWEEN EMBASSY NMA AND MFA REPS
THE FOLLOWING INFO WAS DEVELOPED:

1. THE SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT JOSE LUIS XIFRA PRESENT
SUBDIRECTOR GENERAL OF COOPERACION TECNICA INTERNACIONAL WOULD
GO TO PARIS AS ASSISTANT TO FRANCISCO VALLAURE, ON THE SPANISH
MISSION TO THE OECD. XIFRA'S PLACE WILL BE TAKEN BY JOSE FRAN-
CISCO DE CASTRO, PRESENT DIRECTOR OF GENERAL AFFAIRS OF
COOPERACION TECNICA INTERNACIONAL. CASTRO WAS A FORMER
CULTURAL ATTACHE IN MANILA, WHERE HE WAS WELL-KNOWN TO PAO
RYLANCE DURING HIS TOUR IN MANILA AS CAO. THIS MOVE, A WELL
KEPT CONFIDENCE, HAS NOT BEEN PUBLISHED AND PROBABLY WONT
BE UNTIL XIFRA MOVES TO PARIS ABOUT DEC. 10.

2. THE 2-1/2 HOUR SESSION WAS TAKEN UP WITH REVIEW OF PROJECTS
THAT CAN BE CONSIDERED IN SOME DEVELOPMENT STAGE FOR FINAL
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SUBMISSION, HARD-NOSED ADVICE FOR THE NEW SUBDIRECTOR FROM

MENTOR XIFRA, AND A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE NMA S/H OPERATION WITH ENRIQUE LARROGUE, THE NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL OF COOPERACION TECNICA INTERNACIONAL. ALTHOUGH TWO DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES ARE

INVOLVED THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT XIFRA WILL TRY TO LEAVE HIS IMPRINT AS A HARD LINE NEGOTIATOR WITH THE HOPE THAT SUCH LEGACY WILL SURVIVE IN DE CASTRO. HE DIPLOMATICALLY BUT FORCEFULLY REAFFIRMED THE SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PREROGATIVE OF HAVING THE LAST WORD IN PROJECT PRIORITY AND SUBMISSION MATTERS IF ANY IMPASSE ARISES WITH THE MINISTRIES.

3. PROJECTS THUS FAR IN DEVELOPMENT STAGE FOR FINAL SUBMISSION BEFORE THE DEC. 20 DEADLINE (NEW DATE SET BY MFA) FOR THE SPANISH NOTE VERBALE TO EMBASSY ARE:

(1) AGRICULTURE: CONTINUATION FOUR CURRENT PROJECTS AND POSSIBLE INITIATION NEW PROJECT IN FOREST RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: MAXIMUM OF \$335,000. U.S. EXPERT CONSULTATION WITH SPANISH ON NEW PROJECT FROM REMNANT FIRST TRANCHE FUNDS.

NEW "TITLE ONLY" PROJECTS DISMISSED FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION THIS ROUND BY MFA.

(2) INDUSTRIA: CONTINUATION OF MARINE GEOLOGY PROJECT (\$52,000) AND SOLID WASTE PROJECT (\$50,000). THREE NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS DISMISSED BY MFA.

(3) VIVIENDA: THE FOUR NEW PROJECTS PROPOSED TO BE REVIEWED BY U.S.; FEASIBLE ONES TO BE HELD TO \$200,000.

(4) OBRAS PUBLICAS: WATER RESOURCES SYSTEMS PROJECT TO BE CONTINUED, INCORPORATING THREE NEW PROJECT PROPOSALS (\$150,000). TWO NEW PROJECTS IN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING TO BE REVIEWED BY U.S. DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION (\$120,000).

(5) COMERCIO: OCEANOGRAPHIC STUDIES OF GALICIAN ESTUARIES TO BE CONTINUED (\$90,000). NEW PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR OCEANOGRAPHIC STUDIES IN WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (\$55,000) MUST BE CLEARED BY NAVY GENERAL STAFF.

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(6) GOBERNACION: HAS NOT YET SUBMITTED PROPOSAL FOR CONTINUATION OF ALMADEN STUDIES, ESTIMATED BY U.S. COOPERATORS AT \$200,000. EXPECTED TO REQUEST ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR TRAVEL AND STUDY OF SPANISH ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SCIENTISTS (\$50,000).

(7) EDUCACION Y CIENCIA: MINISTRY HAS VERY RECENTLY CENTRALIZED ITS EVALUATION AND PRESENTATION OF PROJECTS, AND PREPARATIONS CONTINUE CURRENT PROJECTS ON BRAIN RESEARCH, INSTI-

TUTE OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND INSTITUTE OF AUTOMATICS TO BE CONTINUED, BUT DOLLAR ALLOCATIONS NOT DETERMINED. FATE OF S/T INFORMATION SERVICE PROJECT UNKNOWN. SEVEN NEW "THEMES" (GROUPS OF COHERENT PROJECTS, APPARENTLY) PROPOSED, BUT SUBSTANCE WILL NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL EARLY DECEMBER. MINISTRY HAS TOLD NSF REP IT WANTS \$1,500,000 FOR PACKAGE OF CONTINUING AND NEW PROJECTS.

MFA DOES NOT MAKE SUBSTANTIVE EVALUATIONS OF PROJECTS AND IN FACT IS OFTEN GUIDED BY TITLES AND BUDGET LEVELS IN ITS DECISIONS. EMBASSY AND NSF REP MUST WORK UP ACCEPTABLE PROJECT PROPOSALS WITH SPANISH PROJECT DIRECTORS WHEN EMB HAS MFA GREEN LIGHT TO DO SO. COMPRESSED TIMETABLE REQUIRES THIS BE DONE ALMOST AT LAST MINUTE EXCEPT FOR CONTINUING PROJECTS. SIMILAR TO THE PROCEDURE LAST YEAR, DECEMBER NOTE VERBALE WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BE WRITTEN IN BROAD TERMS. MFA RESPONSE TO EMBASSY'S REPLY, ESTIMATED FOR JANUARY OR FEBRUARY 1974, WILL BE MORE PRECISE AS EMBASSY GETS COMPLETED PROPOSALS AND NSF EVALUATIONS ON SUBSTANCE AND MANAGEABILITY AND DISCUSSES THESE WITH MFA.

4. SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS TO MFA IS SLOW, AND FORMAL PREPARATION AND DOCUMENTATION VARIES FROM SATISFACTORY, ESPECIALLY ON THE ON-GOING ONES, TO NON- EXISTENT WITH ONLY TITLES AND BUDGET FIGURES.

IN ANY EVENT, THE MFA DOES NOT SHARE ANY COPIES OF THESE FORMAL PRESENTATIONS, LIMITING ITSELF TO ORAL DISCUSSION ONLY OF THE MATTER, NSF REP HAS TO DEVELOP DETAILED INFO FOR HIS OWN INPUT FROM HIS INTERIM MEETINGS WITH CONCERNED MINISTRY OFFICIALS.

5. XIFRA'S DEPARTURE ON DEC. 10; DE CASTRO'S PLANNED TRIP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF SIX OR TEN DAYS AT THE SAME TIME TO LATIN AMERICA; AND THE DESIRE OF THE NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL LARROQUE TO HAVE EVERYTHING IN GOOD ORDER BY DEC. 20, PLUS HIS OWN TRAVEL DEC. 8-12, WILL MAKE FOR A BUSY TIME.

6. WITH REF TO THE DEPT'S REQUEST IN 209831, THE POST SIMPLY CANNOT REPORT IN SUCH DETAIL AND IN SUCH SPECIFICS.

7. CLEMENT WILL BE IN WASHINGTON ON NOV. 27 AND STAY THERE THRU DEC. 2. HE WILL BE ABLE TO REPORT IN MORE DETAIL ON THE PROJECTS THEMSELVES AND ON SOME OF THE CONSIDERATIONS THAT BROUGHT THEM TO THEIR PRESENT STATUS.
MONTLLOR

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